IDPH
Illinois Department of Public Health

ARE YOU A COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER?

Here's *What to Do Next*

Turn Your Commitment to Community Into Certification



Statewide certification for
Community Health Workers (CHWs) in Illinois is here!

Learn how you can start getting certified.

Illinois Public Health Association IPHA

Community Health Workers
Help. Guide. Thrive.

Learn more about CHW certification and next steps:
HELPGUIDETHRIVE.ORG

Talk With Your Employer

Start conversations now about:

- What certification could mean for career growth
- How certification may affect your role

Document Your Experience

Begin gathering the following information:

- Your work history as a CHW
- Job descriptions or letters from employers
- Volunteer or community-based experience
- Get in touch with your _____ for more information

Track Your Training

If you have completed CHW general core competency training:

- Save certificates and course descriptions
- Record/Document training hours and dates
- Keep contact information of training providers

If you have questions about trainings that meet certification requirements, contact _____.

Any training that has occurred since January 1st, 2022, for sites that are not certified sponsor sites.

Prepare Now

Taking the steps outlined above will help you prepare for when certification becomes available.

Illinois does not automatically disqualify someone from becoming a Certified Community Health Worker (CHW) because of a prior criminal record. Under the Illinois Department of Public Health's (IDPH) Community Health Worker Certification Program rules, applicants must disclose any prior felony convictions, but having a felony conviction alone is not grounds for automatic denial of certification.

Learn more about CHW certification and next steps:

HELPGUIDETHRIVE.ORG

Version. 3.0 - 11/2026

Funding is made possible by a grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health.